

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the present amendment, a substitute specification is being filed in order to conform with U.S. practice. Headings have been added to the specification. The substitute specification contains no new matter. Further, claims 1-17 have been canceled in favor of new claims 18-36. The new claims are in a better form for U.S. examination. The above amendments to the claims are not made for any reason of patentability. Still further, the Abstract has been added.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Zbigniew Combrowski

By 

Barry L. Kelmachter
BACHMAN & LaPOINTE, P.C.
Reg. No. 29,999
Attorney for Applicants

Telephone: (203) 777-6628 ext. 112

Telefax: (203) 865-0297

Email: docket@bachlap.com

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I, Karen M. Gill, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on September 21, 2006.



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